

September 2016

Dear Parent/Carer,

Visit to FOREST OF DEAN

The Humanities Faculty are organising a field trip to the Forest of Dean in May 2017. The three-day residential visit offers an excellent opportunity to reinforce learning in both History and Geography. We shall be staying in a castle built by King John, where the pupils will experience what it was like to live in a castle and will also be able to explore the castle and its grounds in detail. We will also visit Chepstow Castle, Dean Heritage Centre, Symonds Yat and go underground to explore an old iron mine at Clearwell Caves. There will be a medieval feast on the Tuesday night, and staff and students will be wearing medieval costumes brought by pupils themselves; We will try our skills in archery and later we will play a murder mystery game involving characters who might have lived in the castle 800 years ago. The Rivers Wye and Severn flow through the area and we will also study how a river shapes its valley. The trip has run previously on many occasions and has always been a great success. The castle is run by the Youth Hostels' Association (YHA St Briavels).

The trip will leave at 9am on Monday 22 May 2017 and return at approximately 2 pm on Wednesday 24 May 2017.

We would very much like this visit to take place. However, the visit is an "optional extra" under the 1996 Education Act and the school is allowed to make a charge in full. The cost of the trip will be **£132**, this includes travel, accommodation and all meals, except for lunch on the first day, this will require a packed lunch. If there are not sufficient pupils to make the trip viable, then the trip will be cancelled and a full refund will be given. We must make it very clear that no funds whatsoever exist for this activity. However, parents of children who are in receipt of free school meals are entitled to 'Opportunity Funding' to cover the cost of the trip.

As everything is included in the cost of the trip, the maximum amount of spending money that we recommend your child should take on this trip is £10. This should be kept by your child throughout the trip and they will be responsible for this money.

If the trip is over-subscribed, priority will be given to students who have demonstrated positive behaviour and have good attendance records and these names will be picked at random.

If your child is interested in going on the trip, please complete the proforma below, including your emergency contact details and return it in a sealed envelope, labelled with the title of the trip by Friday 7 October 2016.

Yours sincerely

Mrs K Wright
Trip Leader

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To Mrs K Wright via Main Office by Friday 7 October.

Forest of Dean

I would like my son/daughter _____ of form _____ to take part in the above visit.

I confirm I will pay the balance in full via ParentPay by the due date

Or

I confirm I have submitted an 'Opportunity Funding' application form.

Name: _____

Emergency contact number: _____

Second emergency contact number: _____

Signed: _____
(By the adult with legal responsibility for the young person)

Date: _____